



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q57601

Taizou ITOU, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/732,712

Group Art Unit: 1743

Confirmation No.: 2910

Examiner: Yelena G. GAKH

Filed: December 11, 2000

For: METHOD FOR MEASURING WATER CONCENTRATION IN AMMONIA

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of an Office Action from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language translation of at least that portion of the Office Action indicating the degree of relevance found by the Japanese Patent Office.

Applicant also encloses English language Patent Abstracts of Japan for the listed JP 61-095229, JP 5-157689, JP 9-142833 and JP 8-008185.

Additionally, applicants also submit partial translations of the listed JP 61-095229 (translation of the portion at page 3, last paragraph, left bottom column) and JP 5-157689 (translation of the portion at page 2, last paragraph of the left column bridging to the right column). Applicant also points out that the listed JP 11-507004 corresponds to the listed WO 96/39263, the listed JP 11-509980 corresponds to the listed WO 96/39264, and the listed JP 10-281988 corresponds to the listed U.S. Patent 6,040,915.


The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


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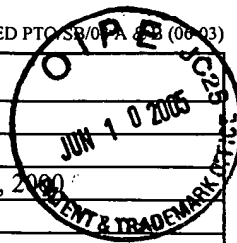
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Date: June 10, 2005

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| Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</u> <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | <i>Complete if Known</i> | |
| | | | | Application Number | 09/732,712 |
| | | | | Confirmation Number | 2910 |
| | | | | Filing Date | December 11, 2000 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Taizou ITOU |
| | | | | Art Unit | 1743 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Yelena G. GAKH |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | Q57601 |



| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
| | | US 6,040,915 | A | 03/21/2000 | Wu et al |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Translation ⁶ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | JP | 61-095229 | A | 05-14-1986 | Osaka Gas Co. Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 05-157689 | A | 06-25-1993 | Horiba Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 09-142833 | A | 06-03-1997 | Taiyo Toyo Sanso Co. Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 08-008185 | A | 01-12-1996 | The Furukawa Electric Co. Ltd. | Abstract |
| | | JP | 10-281988 | A | 10-23-1998 | Nippon Sanso Corp. | Abstract |
| | | WO | 96/39265 | A1 | 12-12-1996 | Startec Ventures, Inc. | Yes |
| | | WO | 96/39264 | A1 | 12/12/1996 | Startec Ventures, Inc. | |
| | | WO | 96/39263 | A1 | 12/12/1996 | Startec Ventures, Inc. | |
| | | JP | 11-507004 | A | 06/22/1999 | Startec Ventures, Inc. | |
| | | JP | 11-509980 | A | 06/22/1999 | Startec Ventures, Inc. | |
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| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | Translation ⁶ |
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| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.